



Dear Friend:

In the coming months, I will continue to meet with the newest residents of the First Congressional District of Illinois — citizens like you who live and work in the southwest suburbs surrounding Chicago — to gauge the needs and the concerns of your particular areas.

As a senior member of the House of Representatives Energy and Commerce Committee, my colleagues and I deliberate on important issues, such as telecommunications, healthcare, Medicare and Medicaid, energy and environmental issues, consumer protection and safety, just to name a few.

*Earlier this year, I introduced legislation to expand the discount prescription drug programs through the **340 (B) drug program**. I am committed to working for lower prices for prescription drugs. Also this year, I re-introduced the **Melanie Blocker-Stokes Postpartum Depression Research and Care Act — H.R. 846** — to provide for research and services for women with postpartum depression and psychosis.*

Both of these bills await hearings at the subcommittee level.

As we prepare to send our children back to school, I want to make you aware of a bill that I introduced in response to the troubling rate of more than 519,000 students who drop out each year. H.R. 3660, also known as the Vocational Opportunities and Instruction through Cooperative Education Act, would require the Secretary of Education to conduct a model program that would examine the effectiveness of cooperative education programs, and report back to Congress after two years.

My commitment to work with you to address challenges and identify opportunities remains steadfast. Please visit the new First Congressional District Office at 3235 West 147th Street, Midlothian, IL. We are here to serve you.

Bobby L. Rush

Bobby L. Rush, M.C.

Washington, DC — Congressman Bobby L. Rush announced an aggressive legislative initiative to expand discount prescription drug programs through the 340 (B) drug program this year.

Essentially, Cong. Rush’s legislation will extend the 340 (B) drug program discount for inpatient drugs for disproportionate share hospitals. The purpose of the legislation is to allow for designated entities to participate in a program that will enable them to pay lower prices for prescription drugs and to help them to improve the quality of health care services.

The purpose of the legislation is to allow for designated hospitals and federally funded public healthcare facilities to participate in a program that will enable them to pay lower prices for prescription drugs. These savings can then be passed on to patients, especially to the low-income and underinsured, who are eligible to purchase prescription drugs at an affordable cost.

With the growing cost of health care, “it’s important that we promote and expand the 340 (B) program to ensure that no one goes without the medication they need,” said Rush. “We live in a world where people are forced to prioritize life’s essentials for budgetary reasons. Healthcare should remain at the top of the list.”



Congressman Bobby L. Rush and Village of Robbins Mayor Irene H. Brodie, Ph.D., at a meeting to discuss the grand reopening of Claire Boulevard.

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Contracts with the Department of Homeland Security

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) recently announced DHS – Open for Business – which provides information on contracts, grants, small business opportunities, research and development, and regulations with potential impact on the private sector.

The website: <http://www.dhs.gov/openforbusiness> is designed to provide one-stop shopping for the business community on a 24/7 basis. First Congressional District of Illinois constituents may also e-mail the Department directly at: openforbusiness@dhs.gov.

Congressman Rush is here to help you.



Congressman Rush congratulates Orland Park high school students on their appointments to West Point Academy. Pictured from l. to r. are: Congressman Rush, Brian Dommer (U.S. Senator Peter Fitzgerald's nominee), Jesse Furmanek and John Kowalski (Congressman Rush's nominees), Orland Park Mayor, Daniel J. McLaughlin.

Military Academy Nominations

For students interested in applying to one of the service academies, our office may be able to provide nominations to those who qualify. These academies include:

- U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado
- U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut
- U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, New York
- U.S. Military Academy in West Point, New York
- U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland

For more information on applying for a Congressional Nomination, please call my Chicago District office at 773-224-6500. Application deadline is November 26, 2004.

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Helping You

My staff and I want to assist you with questions or problems you might encounter with federal agencies. While I cannot order a federal agency to decide a matter in your favor, I want to do everything I can to assist you. Here are some areas where we can help.

- Consumer protection referrals
- Social Security and Medicare
- Mail delivery and service
- U.S. Small Business Administration services
- Immigration, naturalization and citizenship
- IRS problems
- Federal grant searches
- Regulatory compliance
- Veteran's benefits and military service issues
- Service academy appointments
- Washington, D.C. tour requests

Congressman Bobby L. Rush



Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich, Speaker of the House, Congressman Dennis Hastert, Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley and Congressman Bobby L. Rush at the annual Illinois Delegation meeting to discuss efforts to bring federal resources to the state.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Bobby Rush
M.C.
ECRWSS

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